

FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Marine Lifesaving and Diving Equipment and Services (Army Support)

BACKGROUND:

- The Marine Lifesaving and Diving Team is aggressively implementing a Prime Vendor (PV) program for marine lifesaving and diving equipment, tools, and incidental marine services to military and federal diving organizations operating throughout the world.
- The program covers five regions worldwide. Three PV contracts were awarded in November 1998 for the Pacific Regions, which cover the Pacific Northwest including Alaska; Pacific Southwest; and Pacific Rim. In January 2000, three contracts were awarded for the Atlantic Regions which cover the Atlantic Northeast including Europe, and the Southeast which includes the Gulf Coast, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Bahamas, and the Caribbean. All contracts have a one year base and four option years. There are a total of four prime vendors covering the five program regions.

DISCUSSION:

- To date, sixty-five sites have been implemented, including the 1st Special Forces Group (SFG), and the 2nd BN 75th Rangers Regiment, at Ft. Lewis. Visits are planned to the 3rd SFG and 7th SFG at Ft. Bragg N.C. on March 2 and 3. Additional potential sites include the 3rd BN 75th Rangers and 4th Rangers Training BN at Ft. Benning GA; the 5th and 10th SFG at Ft. Campbell KY and Ft. Carson CO respectively; the 1st BN 75th Rangers Hunter Army Airfield GA; and the 5th Rangers Training BN in Dahlonga GA. Other visits are planned for the JFK Warfare Center and School at Ft. Bragg NC and the Special Forces Underwater Operations Dive School, Key West FL.
- PV's Electronic Order Entry (EOE) Systems are operational and customers are ordering via the Internet. The Web based systems makes the program available to remote and deployed units worldwide. Website for the program is: www.dscp.dla.mil/gi/general/mardiv.htm. The PV program supports the DoD strategic plan to reduce infrastructure costs and depot inventory. Contractual delivery schedule is 24 hours for emergency support, 7 days for urgent and 30 days for routine support.
- A sample of products available to Special Forces units are Dreager LAR V Rebreathers, Pelican cases, Sodasorb CO2 Absorbent, air line manifolds, depth and pressure gauges, regulators, umbilical cords, divers masks, knives, fins, boots, gloves, drysuits, wetsuits, air filters, medical and underwater welding kits. Services such as hydrostatic testing, oxygen cleaning, is also available.

- Surge requirements are a vital part of the PV contract to ensure readiness and sustainment. Customer input was utilized to provide item selection and to determine increased demand levels required to support surge mission requirements. Specific surge and sustainment provisions in the contract bind the vendor. A surge test was performed in December 99 whereby the vendors demonstrated their ability to respond to an emergency situation with fill rates of 100% within the required 72 hours.

RECOMMENDATION: For information only

APPROVED: General and Industrial Director

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